

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 386 – HB 730

February 23, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the city recorder to serve as the municipal judge if allowed by the city charter. Authorizes judges who are authorized to practice law in Tennessee to substitute continuing legal education (CLE) for training provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease Local Expenditures – \$151,000/Permissive

Assumptions:

- According to the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS), approximately 20 municipal charters authorize the city recorder to serve as a municipal judge.
- The average salary for a municipal judge is \$15,095.
- Approximately 10 municipalities will choose to utilize the city recorder as the municipal judge. Local governments will experience a decrease in expenditures of approximately \$150,950 for 10 cities that will choose to utilize the city recorder as the municipal judge.
- According to the AOC, the number of municipal judges who are licensed attorneys is approximately 150. Almost all of these judges will continue to attend AOC training, which qualifies as CLE training and is paid for by revenue collected under the Municipal Court Reform Act. There will not be a fiscal impact to state government.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kmc

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